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09/673288 2/28/01  
529 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 OCT 2000

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PF83PCTSEQ/dln

Applicants : Laurent Chevalet, Alain Robert, Jean-Yves Bonnefoy, and Thien Ngoc Nguyen  
Title : NOVEL CONSTRUCTS FOR CONTROLLED EXPRESSION OF RECOMBINANT PROTEINS IN PROKARYOTIC CELLS

\* \* \* \*

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

As soon as the Serial No. and Filing Date have been accorded the above-identified application, kindly enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1: Kindly amend as follows:

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Method for producing a recombinant protein [of interest whose gene] wherein a gene encoding the protein is placed under the control of the Ptrp tryptophan operon promoter, [characterized in that it] wherein the method comprises the following steps:

- a) transforming a prokaryotic cell with a vector containing a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of inactivating the gene encoding a TnaA tryptophanase when said nucleic acid sequence is introduced into said host cell, and integrating said sequence into the DNA of said host cell; and beforehand, subsequently or simultaneously, introducing into said prokaryotic cell 'all[,] or part[,] of the sequence of a promoter which is followed, in the 3' position, by a

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